

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the present application. The non-final Office Action dated February 19, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Response, Applicant has amended the specification to correct a minor typographical error. No new matter has been added. Applicant kindly acknowledges the allowance of claims 6-10 and 12-26. Claims 1-10 and 12-26 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,587,819, issued to Sunohara et al (hereafter "Sunohara") in view of Japanese Application No. JP411-344703, issued to Kamiya, and U.S. Patent No. 3,812,394, issued to Kaplan. Applicant traverses the rejection because neither Sunohara, Kamiya nor Kaplan teaches or suggests the combined features recited in the claims of the present application. In particular, Sunohara, Kamiya and Kaplan fail to teach or suggest "a cholesteric liquid crystal (CLC) color filter layer" that includes "red, green and blue CLC color filters on the light-absorption layer, the red, green and blue CLC color filters reflecting light components of red, green and blue wavelengths, respectively", as recited in rejected independent claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 of the present application.

The Office Action concedes that Sunohara fails to disclose "the blue color filter configuration and the required blue color filter with respect to red and green color filter" (Office Action, paragraph 2). To compensate for the deficiencies of Sunohara, the Office Action relies upon the teachings of Kamiya regarding "a reflection type color liquid crystal display device where the required blue color filter configuration is disclosed". The Office Action further relies upon the teachings of Kaplan regarding "an image screen with single, optically continuous filter where the required blue color filter with respect to the red and green filters is disclosed." Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits Kamiya and Kaplan fail to remedy the deficiencies of Sunohara such that one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated, by the teachings of Kamiya and Kaplan, to modify the display device of Sunohara to obtain a cholesteric liquid

crystal (CLC) color filter layer having the combined features recited in rejected independent claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 of the present application.

Sunohara discloses a display device in which “the first and second substrates and the light-scattering medium disposed between the substrate constitute a light-scattering display panel” (col. 9, lines 16-19). The light-scattering “medium is made of, for example, polymer-dispersed liquid crystal. It is preferable that the light-scattering films 24 be formed of electrically conductive materials such as aluminum” (col. 19, lines 7-10). However, Sunohara fails to teach or suggest a cholesteric liquid crystal (CLC) color filter layer and red, green and blue CLC color filters as recited in the claims of the present application.

Kamiya discloses, from what Applicant can determine from the English Abstract a reflection type color liquid crystal display device that includes color filters for green (101), blue (102) and red (103). The Abstract states “an area on which the projection part 105 of the filter 102 is superposed and an area on which the filter 103 is superposed exist on a red pixel 104. Thus, an entire color liquid crystal panel gets bluish, so that the yellowness of the color filter is corrected.” Applicant submits the Abstract fails to teach or suggest a cholesteric liquid crystal (CLC) color filter layer and red, green and blue CLC color filters as recited in the claims of the present application. Additionally, Applicant notes the term “superposed” means “to set or place over or above something else”. In the present application, “the red CLC color filter includes an additional blue CLC color filter therein in a same layer as the red CLC”, as recited in independent claim 1; “the green CLC color filter includes an additional blue CLC color filter there in a same layer as the green CLC”, as recited in independent claim 3; “the blue CLC color filter includes an additional red CLC color filter therein in a same layer as the blue CLC, as recited in independent claim 4; and “the blue CLC color filter includes an additional green CLC color filter therein in a same layer as the blue CLC”, as recited in independent claim 5.

Kaplan discloses “the screen of a show-mask tri-color picture tube has a series of optically continuous red filters not only covering screen areas assigned to red but also extending into abutting relation with screen area assigned to blue and green” (Abstract). However, Kaplan fails to teach or suggest a cholesteric liquid crystal (CLC) color filter layer and red, green and blue CLC color filters as recited in the claims of the present application.

Because neither Sunohara, Kamiya nor Kaplan teach or suggest at least the above features of the present application, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine these applied references to obtain a cholestric liquid crystal (CLC) color filter layer having the combined features recited in claims 1 and 3-5. As such, claim 1 and its dependent claim 2, and claims 3-5 are patentable over any combination of Sunohara, Kamiya and Kaplan. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 496-7500.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: May 19, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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